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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
*Science and Technology Advisory Panel*

02 NOV 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Senior Division Analyst, Science and Technology  
Division, OSWR

FROM: [REDACTED], Chairman  
Science and Technology Advisory Panel

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SUBJECT: Information Processing

1. On behalf of the S&T Advisory Panel, I would like to thank you for the fine presentation that you made to the group on 22 September. A separate, more formal, thank you was sent to you through Wayne Boring. The main purpose of this memorandum is to pass on to you some of the comments that STAP expressed about your briefing. They are mentioned only briefly here and I would encourage you to discuss them more fully with [REDACTED] at a time that is mutually convenient.

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-- The Panel felt that the recommendations should be more specific. Not enough guidance is contained in them to actually implement a program.

-- When implementing the recommendations, an initial small pilot project would enable requirements to be evaluated and errors corrected while the scale is still small. Once it is established that the pilot is working well, it can be expanded to full scale.

-- While surveys can be extremely useful, STAP believes that it can be dangerous to rely on them entirely to determine what analysts are doing or ought to do.

-- The study should be more concerned with first derivatives: how do you improve processing, by how much, and in what directions?--rather than a simple statement of improvements. It is important to know how to assess improvements.

2. I am attaching some of the STAP papers on Project SAFE. STAP suggests that your situation in developing information processing programs is similar to that of SAFE in its earlier stages.

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3. STAP strongly agrees with your expressed concern about the apparent lack of inter-agency access to data bases. We believe that the Community should plan for this more actively. We would be willing to help you in whatever way we can.

4. If you would like to discuss these comments and observations with either myself or [redacted], call [redacted] in the Secretariat to set up a meeting.

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Attachment:  
As Stated

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SUBJ: Information Processing

Dist:

Orig - Addressee  
1 - CH/STAP  
~~1~~ - STAP/CHRONO  
1 - STAP/PR

OSWR/STAP/STIC,



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